Leicester, April 12. 1837.

My dear Sir and Cousin,

I have long been wishing that I might get a letter from you, but it was not a reasonable wish, I know, for I am in your debt in the letter-way, as well as in many others. Your departure from Brooklyn, however necessary it may have been, or however advantageous it may have proved to you, has been anything but an agreeable or advantageous change to me. It was one of the circumstances, which made my settlement here so pleasant to me, that I should be within a short day's ride of you & your family, & therefore should have the privilege of occasional conference, &c. with you. All ~~that~~ those anticipations are cut off; and if your happiness is increased, I surely ought not to complain. (I have been engaged in 'manual labor', and I hope therefore you will excuse the appearance of this letter, being written with an unsteady hand.) We have got very comfortably through the winter. My wife is as well as, perhaps, she could be, after having had through the winter the almost sole charge & care of a stout, fat hearty child, now over 7 months old. For myself I have been very steadily at home during that period; for 6 months of which I had only 2 exchanges. I have worked pretty hard. Besides other things, I have had & still continue to have a Bible

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Class which meets once a week, & which has been attended hitherto with very considerable spirit. Unwearied efforts are made to injure our Society - & to get its members dismissed from their mechanical & other employment. Time will show with what success. So far as I am able to judge, our Society stands well. That I do all in my power for it, I know I cannot say; but I do something. I wish you would write me about your Society, & what you are doing in it. I have frequently heard of you, from my Boston correspondents, & I suppose that has had its influence in deferring any direct communication between us. I met Mr. & Mrs. Nelson, at a small party, last evening. They are as well as usual.

- Were you at Hingham at the time of Mrs. Brooks', death?

I preached an Anti-Slavery Sermon on the afternoon of Fast day. Are you not tolerably well satisfied with what our Legislature has done on the subject? It is not, indeed, enough fully to satisfy an ardent abolitionist, but I think it quite enough to satisfy one who knows that every thing cannot be done in a day - no, nor in a year. The almost entire unanimity with which the H. of R. passed the first resolutions was greatly beyond my expectations. The ~~still greater~~ equally great unanimity with which the Senate passed their (for

stronger) resolutions quite astonished me; nor was I surprised, though I was sorry, that the House rejected these last. On the whole, I think the Anti-S. men have great reason to thank God & take courage; when considering the present posture of their cause in this State. — But I should like much to have your views on the subject.

Your friends here are generally in good health. Miss Laura Flint has been affected with a heavy cough all the winter, but is much better now. Capt. Southgate has been in Boston, a member of the Ho: of Reps, since the 1st. of January. He is very far from being in a right state of mind — but is fully sensible of his defects, or rather that he has defects; & the sense of it is so strong that he despairs of amendment here, & of happiness hereafter. I have not failed to hold up to him the assurances and promises of God in Christ; they are not yet effectual — not manifestly so, at least. But I shall try hard with him, yet: may God bless my endeavour.

My wife desires love to Mrs. M. & yourself. Remember me to Your wife affectionately — write me as soon as you can, & believe me, Affectionately Yours Saml. May

Rev. Sam.l J. May.

South Scituate.

(Mass.)

Dec. 12. 1837

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